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NOTES ON CHALCOLEPIDIUS AND THE ZOPHERINI. BY THOS. L. CASEY, WASHINGTON, D. C.

The species and subspecies of Chalcolepidius having the side margins of the upper surface densely clothed with white or whitish scales, are very numerous in Arizona and northern Mexico, constituting one of the characteristic northern types of the genus. The recent appearance of a paper by Dr. Otto Schwarz (Deutsche Ent. Zeit., 1906, p. 97), describing two of these forms, has suggested the general revision here attempted, although, after careful study of these descriptions, I am forced to the conclusion that substriatus is nothing more than a slight modification of the typical Webbi, Lec., in which the lateral white vittee of the pronotum are sometimes transversely coalescent at the middle of the length, and that parallelus is identical with tartarus Fall. Most of the new forms here described were taken by Prof. F. H. Snow, in the course of his many fruitful expeditions to Arizona.

Because of the want of data which might in any way enable me to determine or even infer their true relationships with the material at hand, I have tentatively assumed all the forms described to have the weight of species, not attempting to indicate those that may prove ultimately to be more properly subspecies. A few new Mexican species are also included in the following table:

Scutellum transverse, suboval, biimpressed, not emarginate anteriorly; body uniformly clothed with minute close-set olivaceous squamules; antennæ serrate in both sexes; tibiæ not ciliate in the male 20

2.	Antennæ serrate in both sexes
	Antennæ pectinate in the male, serrate in the female, the third joint
	about half as long as the fourth; body narrow, elongate, rather
	convex, the elytra moderately narrowed from base to apex;
	integuments black, shining, uniformly but not very densely clothed
	with minute olivaceous squamules; elytral striæ deeply impressed,
	strongly punctured, the intervals uniform and convex; scutellar
	notch feeble. Atlantic nearctic fauna
3.	Epipleura in colour and vestiture similar to the marginal parts of the
J.	upper surface4
	Epipleura in colour and vestiture similar to the under surface 16
Α.	Pronotum, and usually the elytra, margined at the sides with dense,
4.	closely-decumbent scales, which are larger, flatter and more strigose
	than those clothing the remainder of the surface, which are very
	small, pointed, convex, feebly or not strigose and metallic in
	coloration, forming a more or less pronounced bloom; integuments
	black throughout; anterior and middle tibiæ generally ciliate beneath
	in the male5
	Pronotum not vittate at the sides; body black, the elytra and epipleura
	red; anterior tibiæ ciliate beneath in the male
۲.	Elytral intervals flat or nearly so, sometimes feebly concave, the striæ
5	unimpressed or very feebly impressed and finely punctate 6
	Elytral intervals evidently though moderately convex; equal in width,
	the deeply impressed striæ strongly punctured
	Elytral intervals very uneven in width, strongly elevated, the strice
	sulciform, with the punctures concealed by the dense vestiture of
	the sulci. Mexico
6.	Pale pronotal vittæ pure white, unusually broad, dilated inwardly at
	the middle, where each is much wider than the intervening dark
	space, the white margin at the sides and base of the elytra unusually
	wide, the white scales having a tendency to invade also the intervals
	within the border, from the humeral regions posteriorly; surface
	rather convex, the minute squamules olivaceous-green, rather dense
	and more persistent than usual; basal angles of the prothorax
	slightly everted, the sides becoming strongly convergent and rounded
	in apical third; third antennal joint more than twice as long as the
	second, about two-thirds as long as the fourth. Length 25.0-29.0
	mm.; width 7.5-8.8 mm. Arizona (Yuma). [= substriatus, O. Sch.]

Pale pronotal vittæ narrower, more or less nearly half as wide as the intervening dark space, distinctly dilated internally just behind the middle; third antennal joint as in Webbi
width in the females, from which sex all the descriptions are taken minute squamules moderately close-set, forming a thin blue to olivaceous bloom, very readily denuded
Body stouter and strongly convex, the elytra feebly narrowed from the base to about apical third, then more strongly, arcuately narrowed to the tip; sides of the prothorax arcuately shouldered anteriorly minute squamules producing a thin cobalt-blue bloom
Body narrow, less convex, the sides of the elytra gradually and almost evenly converging from the base nearly to the narrowly rounded apex, and feebly arcuate; minute squamules easily denuded as usual, producing an olivaceous bloom as a rule, becoming blue in some cases; elytral intervals slightly alternating in width
Strial intervals of the elytra conspicuously alternating in width toward tip; lateral vittæ of the pronotum and elytra pure white, the under surface with a blue bloom, the hypomera with several widely scattered white scales. Length (3) 29.0-32.0 mm.; width 9.0-10.0 mm. Arizona (Bill Williams Fork)
Strial intervals uniform in width throughout or very nearly so; lateral vittæ yellowish-white, the under surface as in <i>Snowi</i> ; elytra and prothorax more elongate. Length (?) 30.0 mm.; width 9.0 mm. Arizona (B. Wms. Fork)idoneus, n. sp.
Sides of the prothorax obliquely rounded and shouldered anteriorly body smaller and more slender, the abdomen simple, the fourth segment (3) not at all impressed at the sides; hypomera usually with numerous white scales clustered longitudinally at the centre. Length 27.0 mm.; width 7.5 mm. Arizona (B. Wms. Fork)

Arizonicus, n. sp. Sides of the prothorax evenly arcuate, and converging from the middle to the apex, the prothorax about a third longer than wide (\mathcal{Z}) or somewhat shorter (\mathcal{P}) ; abdomen in both sexes with a pronounced and clearly limited impression at each side of the fourth segment;

hypomera without white scales. Length 30.0-32.0 mm.; width 8.8-9.1 mm. Arizona (B. Wms. Fork)....abdominalis, n. sp. 10. Elytra scarcely more than twice as long as wide, with the white lateral margin (9) about twice as wide as in the other three species, and one-fifth as wide as the elytron; third antennal joint two-thirds as long as the fourth; hypomera with same large scattered white scales in addition to the bluish or olivaceous squamules of the general surface; male much smaller, with the intervals alternating in width. Length 29.0-35.0 mm.; width 8.8-11.0 mm. Arizona (B. Wms. Fork)simulans, n. sp. Elytra very distinctly more than twice as long as wide, the pale lateral margin very narrow, even in the female, where it is usually a little wider than in the male; hypomera without white scales......11 11. Sides of the elytra strongly converging from the base to the narrowly rounded apex, and feebly arcuate; yellowish-white lateral vittæ of the pronotum extending to the lateral bead at apex; last abdominal segment (9) much less than twice as wide as long, the sides only moderately oblique. Length 39.0 mm; width 12.4 mm. Sides of the elytra very feebly converging and slightly arcuate to near apical fourth or fifth, then more strongly arcuate and converging to the apex; marginal vittee of the pronotum flexed inward from the beaded edge toward apex; last abdominal segment (9) strongly oblique at the sides, fully twice as wide as long.....12 12. Scutellum wider than long; pronotum strongly, irregularly foveate anteriorly and laterally as in acuminatus, the sides rather abruptly converging and rounded in apical third, parallel thence to the acute but virtually unreflexed basal angles; marginal vittæ pure white. Length 38.0 mm.; width 12.0 mm. Arizona (near Fort Scutellum longer than wide; pronotum more finely sculptured, the sides broadly arcuate and converging from the middle to the apex, very feebly diverging posteriorly to the slightly and very gradually everted basal angles; side vittæ pale straw-yellow. Length 42.0 mm.; width 12.8 mm. Arizona (Cochise Co.).... nobilis, n. sp. 13. Body parallel, only moderately convex, the elytra arcuately narrowed toward tip, the prothorax rounded at the sides anteriorly, with the

lateral vittæ brownish, nearly half as wide as the broad dark space and almost even; minute squamules olivaceous, the under surface with pale scales on the hypomera and at the sides of the abdomen; tibiæ not ciliate in the male. Length 28.0-32.0 mm; width 8.0-9.5 mm. Arizona (Phœnix). [= parallelus, O. Sch.]..tartarus, Fall

- 15. Form parallel, strongly convex, the prothorax, scutellum and entire under surface densely clothed with green squamules, sometimes becoming bluish toward the sides of the first, which is elongate, parallel, broadly, arcuately narrowed in about apical half, with the basal angles strongly and acutely everted; elytra scarcely more than twice as long as wide, parallel, arcuately narrowed near the apex, the striæ impressed, finely punctate, the intervals equal, feebly convex and clothed uniformly and sparsely with extremely minute grayish-blue squamules. Length 33.0-38.0 mm.; width 10.5-13.0 mm. Lower California......rubripennis, Lec.
- 16. Elongate-oval, moderately convex, black, polished, densely clothed throughout above with large white scales, which thickly fill the sulci of the elytra, the prothorax elongate, moderately narrowed from the everted basal angles, more strongly and arcuately toward apex, the surface somewhat rugose, without lateral vittæ; elytra parallel, arcuately narrowed behind the middle, with deep sulci and convex subequal intervals; entire under surface, except the usual glabrous median lite, densely clothed with rather smaller suberect brown scales. Length 37.0 mm.; width 11.6 mm. Honduras. amictus, n. sp.

- 17. Elytra (?) nearly two and one-half times as long as wide, the strial punctures toward the sides moderately coarse and well separated; basal angles of the prothorax gradually and feebly everted. Length 24.0 mm.; width 6.2 mm. Pennsylvania.....viridipilis, Say Elytra (?) but little more than twice as long as wide, the sulci
- 19. The median part becoming narrow, parallel and flat from before the middle to the coxe; elytra shorter and broader than in rectus, parallel, rounded at the sides of the apex; striæ scarcely impressed, the punctures fine; last ventral (♀) relatively narrower and less abbreviated, less than twice as wide as long; vestiture dense, uniform and bright bluish-green in colour. Length 27.0 mm.; width 7.3 mm. Arizona......smaragdinus, Lec.

The form of the pale margin of the prothorax seems to be comparatively constant and therefore useful in classifying the species as The species figured in the "Biologia" as Webbi, by Mr. Champion, and subsequently referred to Apacheanus, is distinct from both; it has the marginal pronotal vittee broader than in Apacheanus and allies, and slightly dilated inwardly near the middle, a character never observable in those forms. It may be named Sonoricus (n. sp.). In like manner the species published on Plate 12 of Vol. III, part r, fig. 3, of the "Biologia," appears to be more than a variety of virginalis, and it may take the name Championi (n. sp.). The form given in fig. 8 of the same plate, as a variety of Desmaresti, may take the name brevicollis (n. sp.); it is narrower and more parallel than Desmaresti, with a much shorter prothorax, having a broader median dark vitta and with much finer elytral ridges between the striæ. Aztecus and sodalis, of the above table, are related to approximatus, Er., differing in their much narrower form, less anteriorly converging sides of the prothorax and less dilated elytra, among other characters, and amictus is related to pistorius, being very much more narrowly oval. The form identified above as Behrensi, Cand., may not be wholly identical, but it reasonably satisfies most of the characters of the very short description of that species. The species of Chalcolepidius are very local in distribution in the Sonoran regions, as in the case of many other genera.

ZOPHERINI.

The genera of this tribe are well defined in available works, and it is therefore unnecessary to repeat the table given by Leconte and Horn in the "Classification"; it should be mentioned, however, that the genus Zopherus, as at present organized, is composed of four genera, three of them at least very sharply delimited and distinct in structure and facies. These genera may be defined as follows:

- 3. Elytra not impressed near the suture at apex, each with a large, rounded, flattened and abruptly formed tubercle at tip; body black, sometimes with pale venation or general ground colour, usually only visible at the sides; sculpture very coarse. [Type Z. limbatus, Csy.]
 Zopherinus
 - Elytra impressed at each side of the suture at tip, each with a small oblique ridge at apex; body as far as known deep black, without pale maculation, the sculpture more or less fine. [Type Z. tristis, Lec.]

 Zopherodes

The species described by G. H. Horn under the name Zopherus elegans, is very exceptional in having the lateral margins pale and the sculpture fine; I have not seen it, but would infer that its structural characters may differ somewhat from those of either Zopherinus or Zopherodes; it may be attached at present to Zopherodes. The type of Megazopherus (n. gen.) is the largest species of the tribe. Of Zopherus, I have before me one nondescript form, which may be described as follows:

much larger and more irregular black blotches on the elytra, about four or five on each, arranged without semblance of order.

Zopherinus, n. gen.

This genus is represented before me by the two following species, of which the first may be regarded as the type:

The specimen doubtfully referred to *lævicollis* has the surface of the pronotum rather uneven, and the posterior ridge of the fifth ventral could scarcely be described as "trilobed"; it is broadly, feebly sinuate, with a long abrupt parallel-sided spur projecting anteriorly from the bottom of the sinus. *Venosus*, of Champion, is peculiar in coloration, having the white indument covering the entire surface, excepting certain black maculation, as in the true *Zopherus*; *limbatus* is undoubtedly a very different species, which appears to have been overlooked. Specimens in this genus, as well as the other Zopherini, should be thoroughly soaked for at least a day in benzine before studying, as the exuded grease otherwise completely conceals their ornamentation.

ZOPHERODES, n. gen.

The species of this genus, so far as known to me, are all deep black, without pale ornamentation and with comparatively fine sculpture, the pronotum always punctate. Those in my cabinet may be readily known as follows:

- - - Pronotal punctures strong but not muricate, uneven in distribution, denser and coarser toward the sides. Body nearly similar, the prothorax less strongly angulate at the sides anteriorly, the surface more coarsely punctate, the elytra not wider than the prothorax, the uneven tuberculose sculpture less definitely lineate; prosternum more clearly, very coarsely punctate; abdomen similarly coarsely punctate. Length 12.0-16.0 mm.; width 4.5-6.4 mm. Arizona.. tristis. Lec.
- 5. Elytra but little more than one-half longer than wide. Form stout, the prothorax nearly as long as wide, rounded at the sides, the latter

9. Punctures of the pronotum fine, sparse, very faintly muricate, much stronger, closer and muricate toward the sides, without trace of a median impunctate line. Body very slender, dull; prothorax as long as wide, rounded at the sides and slightly prominent just before the middle; elytra moderately opaque, the tubercles moderately small, in mutual contact, extremely feeble in elevation and separated by fine feeble lineiform depressions; prosternum rather finely, acutely tuberculose. Length 15.0 mm.; width 5.0 mm. Arizona...

pudens, n. sp.

Punctures of the pronotum coarser, strongly muricate, divided along the middle by a more or less incomplete narrow impunctate line ...10

- - Elytral tubercles clearly isolated by the densely opaque interstices, very flat but very much more shining than the surface separating them, larger and smaller alternating in very obscure inconstant lines at some parts of the disk; prothorax cordate, fully as long as wide, the punctures strongly muricate but not much larger or closer toward the sides, the latter rounded, only very obtusely prominent before the middle; elytra elongate; general form very slender; prosternum tuberculose. Length 17.0 mm.; width 5.5 mm. Utah...

Mormon, n. sp. (Horn, MS.)

11. Terminal grooves of the elytra very long, about a fifth of the total length. Body very slender, dull in lustre; prothorax a little longer than wide, the sides nearly straight and subparallel anteriorly,

strongly rounding to the apex and slightly prominent before the middle, thence strongly converging to the base, finely, sparsely punctate, the punctures rather abruptly coarse and slightly muricate near the sides; elytra with minute, sparse and simple punctures, much wrinkled toward base, and with some small tubercles near the humeral angles. Length 16.0 mm.; width 5.5 mm. Arizona ...

caudalis, n. sp.

Form moderately slender, larger and less slender than in *lugubris*, similarly dull in lustre; prothorax fully as wide as long, in form and sculpture nearly similar to *lugubris*, but less prominent at the sides just before the middle, and much more tuberculose on the flanks, thence to the base; elytra nearly similar, but with coarser vermiculate impressed lines and shorter, stronger apical tubercles; prosternum much more strongly tuberculose, not evenly as in *lugubris*, but in uneven transverse lines. Length 19.0 mm.; width 6 6 mm. Arizona (Grand Canyon of the Colorado), T. Mitchell Prudden....

Pruddeni, n. sp.

The species described by Horn under the name granicollis is not at hand at present, and therefore cannot be inserted at its proper place in the table; it is distinctly isolated in sculpture and can be readily identified from the original description. Gracilis Horn, is also unique as far as known; it may be distinguished from caudalis and allies by its shining surface and punctured, not tuberculate, prosternum. Elegans may be provisionally attached to this genus, as before remarked.

PHLŒODES, Lec.

Of the two described species of this genus, diabolicus, inhabiting the more northern regions of California, has dense pale vestiture on the apical declivity of the elytra, while pustulosus, Lec., from San Diego, has no pale incrustation, and is a much larger insect. The species or subspecies are rather numerous, and those in my cabinet may be described in outline as follows:

- 3. Prothorax slightly longer than wide, sculptured nearly as in *diabolicus*, the head with small tubercles throughout, and not sparsely tuberculose at the middle of the vertex as in that species; elytra oval, only very slightly wider than the prothorax, the pale vestiture more diffused between the rugosities of the apical declivity, the central velvety spot slightly arcuate and oblique, the basal short. Length 14.0-16.0 mm,; width 5.4-6.2 mm. California, Cab. Levette.....

ovipennis, n. sp.

Prothorax distinctly elongate, the finer tubercles aggregated in two longitudinal sinuous median lines more obviously than in diabolicus, the head covered throughout with small tubercles which are close-set, and, as in ovipennis, densely punctulate on their convex surfaces; elytra oblong oval, with the pale vestiture confined to the apical parts of the declivity, the velvety spots large and distinct, the basal much elongated. Length 17.0 mm.; width 6.4 mm. California (Kern Co.)

elongatus, n. sp.

- median elevation slightly concave and devoid of tubercles, the latter close along the sides of the elevation; elytra evenly oval, about two-thirds longer than wide, rugose as usual. Length 19.5 mm.; width 7.2 mm. California (near San Diego), Dunn...scaber, n. sp.

The forms above enumerated are mutually very similar in facies and sculpture and may prove to be subspecies of a single stock, but they are at least recognizable.

Noserus, Lec.

The three species in my cabinet may be known by the following characters:

- 2. Body broad in form, the prothorax slightly longer than wide, scarcely at all convex, irregularly tuberculose and uneven, with two longitudinal ridges, angulate toward the median line, especially evident; elytra slightly wider than the prothorax, oblong, flattened above, rapidly declivous at the sides, each with three large tumidities on

torvus, n. sp.

The species described by G. H. Horn under the name *emarginatus* I have not seen; it occurs in Texas. *Noserus* greatly resembles *Nosoderma* in facies, but differs in its slightly grooved tarsi, and in having a feeble antennal groove anteriorly.

PHELLOPSIS, Lec.

This genus resembles *Nosoderma* in having the tarsi not grooved and the antennal cavities wholly wanting, but differs greatly in facies and in having eleven free antennal joints. Dr. Horn surmises in the "Classification," that *porcata*, of LeConte, may be only a variety of *obcordata*, Kirby, and it is so indicated in the Henshaw list, but the two forms are in reality well differentiated species. The four species in my cabinet may be readily known as follows:

- 3. Body nearly similar throughout to porcata but very much stouter, the elytral punctures more shallow and obscure, the pronotum with very coarse tubercles anteriorly, the basal pubescent fovea of pricata replaced by a short nude sulcus, the central part of the disk not sulcate, but more coarsely tuberculose than in porcata; elytra nearly similar, except that the outer of the three subapical tumors is very much smaller and less prominent. Length 14.5 mm.; width 5.5 mm. Idaho (Cœur d'Alene)......robustula, n. sp.
- 4. Body generally similar to the preceding but with the prothorax rounded at the sides anteriorly and moderately narrowed in basal two-fifths, the general surface flatter, with less prominent elevations, the median basal oval elevation much shorter, not extending before the middle, with a narrow sulciform fovea at the centre of the pronotal disk, and a larger and more rounded pit at the base; tubercles throughout strong and distinct; elytra with the inner of the longitudinal ridges less obliterated behind basal fourth, almost

continuous, the punctiform serial foveæ smaller, the lateral subapical tumors rather smaller and less prominent than in *porcata* and *obcordata*, but much more so than in *robustula*. Length 12.0-14.5 mm.; width 4.5-5.4 mm. California (Placer Co. and Lake Tahoe).

**montana*, n. sp.

Other species of this genus probably exist in collections.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA.

The initial meeting of the Entomological Society of America was held in the American Museum of Natural History at New York City, Dec. 28, 1906.

On the evening of December 28, Prof. Wm. M. Wheeler delivered before the Society an illustrated lecture on "The Polymorphism of Insects." Immediately after the lecture the business meeting took place. Prof. J. H. Comstock, of Ithaca, N. Y., was elected chairman, and E. S. G. Titus, of Washington, D. C., secretary of the meeting. The new Society then adopted a constitution and by-laws, and elected officers and the other members of the Executive Committee.

The following are the officers: President, J. H. Comstock, Ithaca, N. Y.; 1st Vice-President, James Fletcher, Ottawa, Can.; 2nd Vice-President, Henry Skinner, Philadelphia, Pa.; Sec.-Treasurer, J. Chester Bradley, Berkeley, Cal.

The Executive Committee consists of the officers and the following: Wm. M. Wheeler, New York, N. Y.; John B. Smith, New Brunswick, N. J.; Herbert Osborn, Columbus, O.; C. J. S. Bethune, Guelph, Can.; F. M. Webster, Washington, D. C.; and Chas. W. Johnson, Boston, Mass.

Following the business meeting, there was a smoker at the Hotel Endicott, given by the Brooklyn, Newark and New York Entomological Societies to the Association of Economic Entomologists and the Entomological Society of America.

The Executive Committee, at a meeting held December 29, decided to call a meeting of the Society at Boston, Mass., in connection with the meetings of the International Congress of Zoology in August, 1907. Full announcement will be made later.

All persons interested in entomology, and residing anywhere in the Americas, are invited to apply for membership. The dues are one dollar a year. The membership now exceeds 250. The American Association for the Advancement of Science granted affiliation to the new Society at their New York meeting.

E. S. G. Titus, Secretary.